(b) the names of the districts identified for e-district project; and

(c) by when the above said projects are likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (c) Department of Information Technology (DIT) received a letter *vide* number IT&C/7119/e-Govl/2008 dated 25.03.2009 from Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding inclusion of 2 districts namely Kadapa and Khammam districts under e-district Pilot project. DIT *vide* its letter No.3(104)/2008 EG II dated 23.04.2009 has informed the State Government that these 2 districts will get covered under the proposed national rollout of e-district Project.

Spectrum release

3108. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the defence Ministry has released spectrum in two lots of 10 MHZ;

(b) if so, whether the Information Technology Ministry has met all the conditions put at the time of release of this spectrum; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the first trigger of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MoC & IT) and Ministry of Defence (MoD) on 22nd May 2009, MoD has released 10 MHz of spectrum.

(b) and (c) The condition for release of this spectrum was met in May, 2009 when MoU was signed by MoC & IT with MoD.

Mobile number portability system

3109. SHRI N. R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunication (DoT) proposes to introduce Mobile Number Portability (MNP) System under which a subscriber can switch to another telecom operator without changing the mobile number;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this system will increase competition among telecom operators and act as a catalyst for them to improve quality of service; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Sir, the Government has decided to introduce Mobile Number Portability (MNP) service in the country.

(b) MNP allows subscribers to retain their existing telephone number when they switch from